

Please replace the Abstract at page 37 with the following:

ABSTRACT

A disc-shaped ceramic heater for a semiconductor producing/examining device. The ceramic heater includes a ceramic substrate and a resistance heating element arranged opposite to the heating face. Variation in the local resistance values of the heating element is reduced by forming, substantially parallel to a direction of current flow, at least one gutter within the heating resistance element. By reducing the variation in local resistance values, and by lying substantially parallel to the flow of current, the at least one gutter increases temperature evenness of the heating face.